

TEN  
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# THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1892.

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## DOINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

THOMAS McGOWAN APPOINTED SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Petitions Received for Macadamizing a Number of Streets—New Hose for the Fire Department.

A special meeting of the Township Committee was held on Monday afternoon. At the suggestion of the Chairman, Mr. Beach, the Committee adopted a regular method of procedure in conducting business. Under it the reports of subcommittees are called for by the Chairman in regular order.

The Poor Committee reported that Mrs. Baum would take charge of the poorhouse for a few weeks until other arrangements were made by the Overseer of the Poor.

The Road Committee recommended the appointment of Thomas McGowan to the office of Superintendent of Public Works at a salary of \$800 per year. Mr. Oakes said that Mr. McGowan showed great reluctance to accept any office at the hands of this Committee, for two reasons. One was that he had taken an active part in the recent local election and had worked hard to secure the election of the four men who had been chosen, and for him to accept an office from their hands would very probably lead to a mistaken inference on the part of some.

Another reason given by Mr. McGowan for not wishing to accept the office was his inexperience in the work that required supervision.

Mr. Oakes said that he deemed it proper to make public Mr. McGowan's attitude in the matter in order to remove from the public mind any erroneous impressions that might be formed outside talk. He said the Committee had labored hard with Mr. McGowan to induce him to accept. They felt pleased that he had consented to do so. They needed a straightforward, honest man to do the work, and they looked forward to good results from the appointment. Mr. Oakes said he had conversed with a number of citizens about the matter, and they all approved of the Committee's selection.

Mr. Beach expressed himself as being in favor of the appointment. He said, when the question of the selection of a superintendent of road and sidewalk work was spoken of, Mr. McGowan was the first man he had thought of as most able to do the work. He spoke to Mr. McGowan about it, but the latter declined the appointment. After a great deal of persuasion he offered to serve the Committee without compensation. The Committee would not entertain any such proposition.

Mr. Beach said he was glad that the Road Committee had secured Mr. McGowan. He felt that the money paid for his services would be well expended.

Mr. Rayner said that it had been his opinion all along that the town should have a Superintendent of Public Works. He asked if it was designed to have the officer appointed take charge of all public works. He thought it was a necessity that some one should approve of all bills paid for road, sidewalk, and crosswalk work. Mr. Rayner suggested the postponement of the fixing of the salary until it was definitely settled just what work would be required of the new officer.

Mr. Stout, in reply to Mr. Rayner, said that, as he understood it, the roads, sidewalks, and crosswalks included all that came under the head of public work in this town. As far as the care of the park was concerned the Public Grounds Committee was able to look after that.

Mr. Rayner asked if the inspection of the sewer would come under the province of the new officer, or would the Committee appoint another inspector for sewer work? Mr. Rayner said that some one should see to it that the contract between the town and the city of Orange should be properly carried out, and there would be a great deal to do in connection with the work of inspection.

Mr. Beach said that whoever had charge of the road and sidewalk work would have all that he could properly attend to.

The sewer matter might be one that would require the services of an engineer.

Mr. Hummel said that as he understood the sewer contract between this town and Orange, he could not see any necessity for an inspector, as all he could do would be to stand and look on; he could not interfere, as the town had no voice or vote in the matter.

Mr. Hummel said there were some things that he thought would very properly come under the supervision of the new officer, such as where the gas or water companies tore up a street to put in a main or house connection they should be made to put it back in proper shape and good condition. Mr. Hummel cited the case of the Montclair Water Company in Brookdale, where the street

had been torn up in front of Wilbur M. Brokaw's property, and it would cost the town \$100 to repair it. Mr. Hummel also thought that when Orange carried a sewer main across a street the contractor should be made to restore the roadway in good shape.

Mr. Stout approved of Mr. Hummel's suggestions, and thought that these were matters that should be attended to by the Superintendent.

Mr. Gilbert asked if the Superintendent would be expected to look after the repairs of dirt roads. He approved of Mr. Rayner's suggestion that it would be well to see if Mr. McGowan could not give some attention to the sewer. Mr. Gilbert said the Committee did not want to create too many offices with large salaries attached. He thought that the matter of fixing the compensation could be laid over.

Mr. Stout said he did not think the compensation named by the Committee was too high for the work of looking after roads and sidewalks. The Superintendent must give the work very close attention. The Committee was making specific contracts, and they expected the Superintendent to see to it that the contractors complied with the specifications.

Mr. Gilbert said that Montclair only paid \$10 per week for about seven months in the year to a man employed to look after road work.

Mr. Oakes urged that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted, and a vote was taken. Mr. Hummel voted against the measure.

For the Sidewalk Committee Mr. Lockwood reported that Mr. Halfpenny had turned over to him a large number of applications of last year for sidewalks.

For the Sewer Committee Mr. Rayner reported that he had attended a meeting of the Sewer Committee of the city of Orange. Mr. Rayner gave a detailed statement of matters pertaining to the sewer, and asked for a special meeting on Friday afternoon, at which the sewer question alone could be discussed. His request was granted.

The Legal Committee presented the bonds of the various township officers. The Committee last year incurred the displeasure of some of the bondsmen by requiring them to justify. The Committee then took the ground that the law required it, and if it was omitted the members of the Committee could be held responsible in case of trouble. Mr. Stout raised the same question this year, and the opinion of the Counsel, Mr. Barrett, was asked. Mr. Barrett said that if the Committee were in ignorance or doubt respecting the bondsmen, it was proper to require them to justify. He said it was a matter in which the Committee could exercise its discretion. The bonds were all accepted, with the exception of Constable Harvey's, which was returned for a correction of date.

The Fire Committee invited the whole Committee to join them in an inspection of the hose houses and fire apparatus on Saturday afternoon of this week. Frank C. Madison was suspended from the membership roll of Active Hose Company for non-payment of dues. The election of A. M. Stager as a member of the Truck Company was approved.

Mr. Stout asked how many members it took to run the Truck Company.

Mr. Rayner said that he was not prepared to definitely answer Mr. Stout's question at present, as it touched a matter that the Fire Committee had under consideration, and which they expected to lay before the whole Committee shortly.

Mr. Stout said it would be well for the Committee to know how large it wants its Fire Department to be. The Fire Committee was directed to advertise for bids for 1,000 feet of new hose, more or less.

Mr. Stout made inquiries as to the price of hose.

Mr. Rayner said it ranged from 40 cents to \$1.25 per foot.

Mr. Stout said that if it was true that the hose only lasted a short time on account of no proper method of keeping it, as much service could be got from the cheap hose as from the more expensive.

Mr. Rayner said the Fire Committee were endeavoring to devise some plan for taking care of the hose. He did not favor the building of a drying-tower until it could be erected on property that belonged to the town.

Thomas Butler was dropped from the membership roll of the Truck Company.

Mr. Gilbert, for the Public Grounds Committee, read a letter from F. T. Camp asking what proceedings should be taken to secure a flagstone walk in front of his property on Broad Street, and a number of other questions relating to sidewalks. Mr. Gilbert asked if the Public Grounds Committee was expected to take care of that portion of the park in front of the German Theological Seminary. The Committee was directed to do so.

Joseph D. Gallagher presented the deed of dedication of the extension of Douglass Road from Lincoln Street south to Washington Avenue. The

street, he said, was properly graded. The Committee accepted it.

John Rassbach appeared before the Committee in behalf of his petition for a water hydrant at the junction of Maolis and Midland Avenues.

Mr. Stout said that the Water Committee had the matter under consideration.

Frank W. Lawrence petitioned for a water main on Harlow Street. Water mains and the erection of a hydrant on Smith and Baylis Streets were also petitioned for.

The macadamizing of Lincoln Street and Hillside Avenue in Glen Ridge was petitioned for. The macadamizing of Berkeley Avenue was also petitioned for.

Local Sewerage Discussed.

At a special meeting of the Township Committee held yesterday afternoon to discuss the sewerage contract and prepare a reply to the communication from the city of Orange asking the Committee to state the amount of sewage they expected to run into the union outlet and to designate the point or points of intersection of the union outlet.

The Committee fixed the capacity required at three million gallons per day, and the main point of intersection the junction of Newark Avenue and Franklin Street, and requested a conference as to other points of intersection.

The attention of the Orange officials was also called to the stipulations in the agreement between the two towns about the manner of constructing the sewer.

The Committee will endeavor to get from engineers as nearly as possible exact statements as to the cost of the sewer to this town.

Mr. Stout said that so many wild rumors were afloat as to the cost, placing it all the way from \$100,000 down, he would be glad if the Committee could give the people the facts.

### An Electric Railway.

Samuel Moore is acting as agent for President Eppley of the Orange and Bloomfield Cross-Town Railroad in securing consents from property-owners for the application of electric motive power to the railroad. The consent of two-thirds of the property-owners on each street traversed by the road is necessary. Mr. Moore is meeting with much success in his work. Israel Dodd is doing similar work for Mr. Eppley in Orange and East Orange, and reports success there. The system which it is intended to apply is the same as that used on the Newark Passenger Railway's Orange line. The poles will be of iron and placed at the curb of the street.

### On Fire for the Third Time.

An alarm was sounded from box 37 at 3.30 o'clock on Tuesday morning. Some malicious person had set fire to the old hat shop belonging to the Hall estate on Bloomfield Avenue. The Fire Department quickly put out the flames. The building was set on fire twice on the morning of March 26. Upon returning from the fire Phoenix Hose Company backed their wagon up to the front of the foremen's house and then rang the bell, but, it is said, failed to awaken him. He resides but a short distance from the house, but claims he cannot hear the bell, and for that reason wants a tapper placed in his room.

### Walter Will Crack Stones.

Walter D. Westerfield, a gay and festive "terror" from the Bowery, was brought before Justice Post by Officer Mahoney on Sunday night, charged by his daughter Maria with disorderly conduct and abusing his family. Westerfield is a member of the "Slip-the-dip" gang, or, in other words, the ones who carry the beer-can, and has been a frequent visitor to Justice Post's court.

The Justice gave him three months in the Penitentiary, where he will break stones for our new roads.

### Exempt Firemen's Delegates.

At a meeting of the Exempt Firemen's Association held in the Truck House parlor on Monday night the following were the delegates elected to attend the State Exempt Firemen's Annual Convention to be held in Hackensack Wednesday, May 18, at eleven o'clock A. M.: W. U. Oakes, F. G. Tower, T. Howell Johnson, Juies Magory and T. E. Hayes. Alternates, Lewis Dawkins, J. T. Griffith and D. E. Ward.

### Union Prayer Meeting.

The monthly union prayer meeting will be held in the Baptist Church Schoolroom next Thursday evening. The report of the committee to formulate some plan of co-operation will be presented.

### The Judge's Gray Horse.

Justice Post is mourning the loss of his favorite gray horse Major, which either strayed or was stolen from his stable last Saturday morning. A reward will be paid for information which will lead to its recovery.

Gilbert & Taylor will now take orders for Lehigh Coal at \$6.50 per ton and Lackawanna coal at \$5 per ton, to be delivered before August 15.—Adv.

Gent's hand-sewed shoes, \$3, at Shoenthal's.—Adv.

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## CHRISTIANS AND THE SALOON

MR. COOK'S SERMON PREACHED LAST SUNDAY EVENING.

The Responsibility of Christians—Total Abstinence—Enforcing the Law—Creating Temperance Sentiment—A Plea for a Well-Equipped Resort for Young Men.

The interest in the sermons on the saloon question appeared to be greater than ever last Sunday evening, judging by the attendance at the Baptist Church.

Those who were late found it difficult to get a seat. The sermon was addressed particularly to Christians, and contained some plain and practical counsel and suggestions.

The texts were: "None of us liveth to himself" (Rom. 14:7), and